

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASMARA 00216 170751Z

17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10

OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-05 SCCT-01

SAM-01 SY-04 /078 W

----- 070664

O 170630Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3182

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

COMIDEASTFOR IMMEDIATE

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI IMMEDIATE

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA IMMEDIATE

DIRNSA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0216

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJECT: ERITREAN SCENE

1. IN 15 FEB CONVERSATION WITH CONSOFF, MORE OR LESS RELIABLE
SOURCE SAID KAGNEW PROVISION OF POWER TO ASMARA WOULD BE CONSIDERED
INTERVENTION BY ELF. HE ADDED THAT IF ELECTRICITY WENT ONLY TO HOMES
IT MAY BE ACCEPTED AS AN HUMANITARIAN GESTURE, BUT THAT UTILIZATION
BY INDUSTRIES WOULD RESULT IN REPRISALS AGAINST KAGNEW. SOURCE
ALSO SAID ERITREAN COMMANDO POLICE (CP), WERE BEING REPLACED
IN ASMARA BY CP FROM ADDIS: COMMENT: THE 1ST 720-B TO ARRIVE IN
ASMARA ON 16 FEB BROUGHT CP FROM ADDIS. THE 2ND 720-B BROUGHT
ABOUT 140 TROOPS, WHO WORE BLUE BERETS (PRESUMABLY TERRITORIALS).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ASMARA 00216 170751Z

FIVE SORTIES OF TROOPS WERE SCHEDULED FOR ASMARA ON 16 FEB.

END COMMENT. SOURCE ALSO REPORTED ABOUT 300 TROOPS FROM TERRITORIAL ARMY HAD BEEN SENT TO ASMARA.

2. SOURCE CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT A FUEL TANKER WAS BURNED MORNING OF 15 FEB ABOUT 40 KMS FROM MASSAWA ENROUTE TO ASMARA. TWO OTHER TANKERS IN CONVOY RETURNED TO MASSAWA. A NAVAL OFFICER REPORTS THAT THE ELF WHO ATTACKED THE TANKER WERE ALL KILLED. APPROX. 1030 HRS 16 FEB, 8 ESSO FUEL TANKERS (BELIEVED TO CONTAIN GASOLINE) WERE SEEN BEING ESCORTED THRU ASMARA BY 4 TRUCK LOADS OF SOLDIERS. IT IS ASSUMED THE TANKERS CAME FROM MASSAWA.

3. DR. BEREKET AB HABTE SELASSIE. SOURCE REPORTS THAT DR. BEREKET AB IS NOW IN KASSALA AND PLANS TO RETURN TO US. ACCORDING TO SOURCE DR. BEREKET AB HAS TAKEN MANY PICTURES OF ERITREAN SCENE IN PAST MONTH. SOURCE'S SISTER FLED ASMARA WITH DR. BEREKET AB IN LATE DECEMBER.

4. ANOTHER SOURCE, OF UNKNOWN RELIABILITY, REPORTS THAT THE TIGREAN LIBERATION FRONT HAS BLOWN A BRIDGE NEAR ADIGRAT, TIGRE.
(15 15N, 39 28E).

5. SEVERAL SOURCES HAVE REPORTED CONTINUED FIGHTING NW OF ASMARA IN DIRECTION OF KEREN, AND SOME EXPLOSIONS WERE HEARD TO THE NORTH.
SHERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS, PUBLIC UTILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ASMARA00216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750057-0082
From: ASMARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750237/aaaabhjf.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ERITREAN SCENE
TAGS: PINS, ET, KAGNEW STATION
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006